



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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Third District

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Fifth District

March 12, 2007

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

SACRAMENTO UPDATE

Status of County-Sponsored Legislation

The deadline to introduce new bills was Friday, February 23, 2007. The County was able to secure authors for most of the bills in its legislative package. Following is a brief description of County-sponsored bills.

SB 134 (Cedillo) would lift the retirement cap for those public safety employees of the Sheriff's Department hired prior to April 1997. This measure is currently in the Senate Public Employment and Retirement Committee awaiting a hearing date.

SB 297 (Romero) would authorize counties to impose a local tax of not more than five cents on the sale of alcoholic beverages in order to continue to provide essential public services, including emergency and trauma care. This measure is currently in the Senate Governmental Organization Committee awaiting a hearing date.

SB 767 (Ridley-Thomas) would limit civil and criminal liability in prescribing and distributing Naloxone for all parties involved in any expansion of the pilot drug overdose prevention and Naloxone distribution project in Los Angeles County. This measure is currently pending committee assignment.

SB 856 (Runner) would allow local government agencies to install customized street name signs that better portray the city/community. This measure is currently pending committee assignment.

SB 959 (Aanestad) would allow the courts, the Sheriff and the Probation Department to mandate usage of an electronic monitoring sentence, while also keeping the voluntary provision in place. This measure is currently pending committee assignment.

AB 223 (Runner) would allow those serving in the military, who are called to active duty in the United States on short notice, to be able to cast an absentee/provisional/or faxed ballot allowing those voters to be part of the official canvass. This measure is set for hearing on March 27, 2007 in the Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee.

AB 713 (Maze and Bass) would provide enhanced services and financial support to emancipated foster youth between the ages of 18 and 21 years. This measure is currently pending committee assignment.

AB 714 (Maze and Bass) would allow disclosure of birth family records for previously adopted children who return to foster care. This measure is currently pending committee assignment.

AB 1062 (Ma), as proposed to be amended, would enhance the CalWORKs Homeless and Housing Assistance Program by creating a time-limited rental subsidy for certain qualified CalWORKs families. This measure is currently pending committee assignment.

AB 1391 (Brownley) would: 1) amend the Water Code to include a requirement that the local public health officer be immediately notified in the event of a sewage spill; 2) permit civil fines to be imposed on persons who do not immediately notify the local public health officer when a sewage spill occurs; and 3) require that at least one of the Water Board's seven membership categories include someone with a public health background. This measure is currently pending committee assignment.

Budget Item

The County will not pursue sponsorship of legislation and funding to enact child care fraud measures in the Stage 2 and Stage 3 CalWORKs Child Care Programs because the Legislature has expressed an interest in accomplishing this through budget trailer bill language. If that happens, the County will support trailer bill language to address fraud in CalWORKs Child Care Programs.

Second Year Issues

The County was unable to secure authors for the following issues in our State Legislative Agenda. We will pursue sponsorship of these issues again in 2008 when new bills are introduced.

- Sponsor or support legislation to establish presumptive Medi-Cal program to provide medical coverage for uninsured chronically homeless adults with a mental health disability who would likely be determined disabled and eligible to SSI.
- Sponsor or support legislation to reform the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act and related laws that assist and protect the mentally ill, and support full funding for outpatient treatment and services.

Status of a County Interest Bill

SB 113 (Calderon), which would require that the presidential primary election be held on the first Tuesday in February in any year evenly divisible by the number four and that the primary not be consolidated with any statewide direct primary held in that year, passed the Assembly on March 6, 2007, by a vote of 46 to 29, and now proceeds to the Governor. Amendments offered by the California State Association of Counties, the Rural County Caucus, and the California Association of Clerks and Elected Officials seeking to include statutory language that would ensure timely reimbursement of county expenses were defeated. The bill contains language expressing the intent of the Legislature to reimburse counties for the costs of these new elections in an expeditious manner upon certification of those costs.

We will continue to keep you advised.

DEJ:GK
MAL:EW:acn

c: All Department Heads
Legislative Strategist
Local 660
Coalition of County Unions
California Contract Cities Association
Independent Cities Association
League of California Cities
City Managers Associations
Buddy Program Participants